

Western Digital Technologies, Inc.  
Serial Number: 09/676,405

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Patent  
Docket: K35A0458

In re Application of: Butler  
Serial No.: 09/676,405  
Filed: 09/29/00  
Title: A DISK DRIVE COMPRISING A COVER  
SHAPED TO IMPROVE RADIAL AND  
AXIAL SHROUDING

Group Art Unit: 2653  
Examiner: Castro, A. A.

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENT FOR TELEPHONE INTERVIEW

THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

Dear Sir,

In response to an office action mailed on 11/29/02 for the above-identified patent application, please consider the following amendments to the claims in preparation for a telephone interview:

In the Claims

Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A disk drive with improved shrouding, comprising:
  - (a) a disk;
  - (b) a spindle motor for rotating the disk;
  - (c) an actuator arm;
  - (d) a head coupled to a distal end of the actuator arm;
  - (e) a rotary actuator for rotating the actuator arm about a pivot to actuate the head radially over the disk;
  - (f) a base; and

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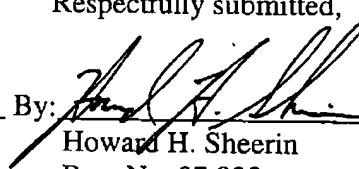
(g) a cover attached to the base to form a head disk assembly chamber, wherein  
the disk, head, actuator arm, and rotary actuator are enclosed within the head  
disk assembly chamber, the cover comprising:  
an inner surface and an outer surface; and  
a shroud extending axially from the inner surface into the head disk assembly  
chamber substantially enveloping the outer periphery of the disk,  
including at least part of the outer periphery coextensive with the actuator  
arm when the actuator arm is positioned adjacent to the outer periphery of  
the disk, to provide radial shrouding of the disk.

#### CONCLUSION

The undersigned will contact the examiner to schedule a telephone interview in  
order to discuss the proposed claim amendments.

Respectfully submitted,

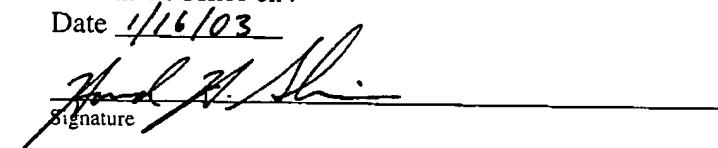
Date: 1/16/03 By:

  
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## FAX Transmittal

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DATE: January 16, 2003

SENT BY: Howard H. Sheerin

TO: Examiner Castro

COMPANY: USPTO Art Unit #2653

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FAX NUMBER: 703-746-5734

CLIENT/MATTER: Patent Application Ser No. 09/676,405

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